Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A method of placing fluid droplets onto an object, the method comprising:

moving a fluid ejection device including a carriage having an air flow reducing member and at least one fluid ejector carried by the carriage in a first direction;

reducing air flow between said fluid ejection device and said object with the member leading the at least one fluid ejector; and

ejecting fluid droplets onto the object.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said fluid ejection device is comprised of a plurality of fluid ejectors.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein:

moving said fluid ejection device relative to said object in a second direction;

reducing air flow between said fluid ejection device and said object with a member leading the fluid ejection device as said device moves in said second direction; and

ejecting fluid droplets onto said object as said ejection device is moved in said second direction.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said fluid ejection device is bi-directionally moved in a straight scanning line.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein said fluid ejector device includes nozzles arranged in a plane spaced from said object and said ~~airflow~~

~~deflecting means~~ air flow reducing member has a boundary extending in said plane perpendicular to said line.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein said boundary is straight.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein said straight boundary is flat.

8. (Original) A method of forming an image on media with an inkjet printing mechanism which includes an inkjet pen carriage, comprising:

attaching an inkjet pen to the inkjet pen carriage;

moving the inkjet pen and an airflow deflector provided by the carriage proximate said inkjet pen on said carriage in a first direction, said deflector leading said pen to thereby reduce airflow between said relatively moving pen and media; and

ejecting fluid droplets onto said media as said carriage and pen are moved in said first direction.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein said airflow deflector is on said carriage.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, comprising ejecting fluid droplets from a plurality of pens on said carriage.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein:

said carriage is bi-directionally moved relative to said media and including positioning a second airflow deflector proximate said pens with said second deflector leading said pens during movement of said carriage in a second direction opposite to said first direction; and

ejecting fluid droplets onto said media as said carriage and pens are moved in said second direction.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein said carriage is moved in a straight scanning line.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein said pens include nozzles arranged in a plane spaced from said media and at least one of said airflow deflectors has a boundary extending in said plane perpendicular to said line.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein said boundary is straight.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein said straight boundary is a flat end.

16. (Original) An inkjet pen carriage for holding an inkjet pen, the carriage comprising:

a first airflow reducing member configured and positioned to at least partially block flow of air between an ink ejection nozzle of a pen on said carriage and an object to be printed during carriage movement in a first direction.

17. (Original) The carriage of claim 16, further including a second airflow reducing member positioned to at least partially block flow of air between an ink ejection nozzle of a pen mounted on said carriage and said media during carriage movement in a second direction.

18. (Original) The carriage of claim 17, wherein said airflow reducing member comprises first and second deflectors.

19. (Original) The carriage of claim 18, wherein said deflectors are integrally formed on said carriage.

20. (Original) The carriage of claim 18, wherein said deflectors are affixed to said carriage.

21. (Original) The carriage of claim 18, wherein said carriage defines a plurality of receptacles for holding plural inkjet pens arranged along a line of carriage movement, a first one of said deflectors being positioned at one side of said carriage and a second one of said deflectors being positioned at a second side of said carriage whereby said deflectors at least partially block airflow to said pens during reciprocal motion of said carriage.

22. (Original) The carriage of claim 21, wherein said receptacles are configured to hold pens having fluid ejection nozzles arranged in a plane and said deflectors each have a boundary extending in said plane perpendicular to said line.

23. (Original) The carriage of claim 22, wherein said boundary is straight.

24. (Original) The carriage of claim 23, wherein said straight boundary is a flat end.

25. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ An inkjet printing mechanism comprising:

a reciprocally moveable pen carriage;

an inkjet pen having an inkjet ejection nozzle and mounted on said carriage; and

a first airflow deflector coupled to the carriage and positioned proximate said nozzle to at least partially block flow of air between said nozzle and media on which printing is to take place during carriage movement in a first direction.

26. (Original) The printing mechanism of claim 25, wherein said deflector is mounted on said carriage.

27. (Original) The printing mechanism of claim 26, further including a second inkjet pen having a second ink ejection nozzle on said carriage and a second airflow deflector coupled to the carriage and positioned proximate said second nozzle to at least partially block flow of air between said second nozzle and said media during carriage movement in a second direction.

28. (Original) The printing mechanism of claim 27, wherein said first and second deflectors are integrally formed on said carriage.

29. (Original) The printing mechanism of claim 27, wherein said deflectors are affixed to said carriage.

30. (Original) The printing mechanism of claim 27, wherein said carriage defines a plurality of receptacles for holding inkjet pens arranged along a line of carriage movement, a plurality of said pens respectively mounted in said

receptacles, a first one of said deflectors being positioned at one side of said carriage and a second one of said deflectors being positioned at a second side of said carriage whereby said deflectors at least partially block airflow to said pens during reciprocal motion of said carriage.

31. (Original) The printing mechanism of claim 30, wherein said nozzles are arranged in a plane and said deflectors each have a boundary extending in said plane.

32. (Original) The printing mechanism of claim 31, wherein said boundary is straight.

33. (Original) The printing mechanism of claim 32, wherein said straight boundary is a flat end.

34. (Original) The printing mechanism of claim 27, wherein said nozzles travel through a print zone during movement of said carriage, one of said deflectors being outside said print zone when said carriage reaches an end of reciprocal movement.

35. (Currently Amended) An inkjet carriage for holding an inkjet pen, the carriage comprising:

a first means for reducing airflow positioned to at least partially block flow of air between an ink ejection nozzle of a pen on said carriage and an object to be printed during carriage movement in a first direction.

36. (Original) An inkjet printing mechanism comprising:

a reciprocally moveable pen carriage;

an inkjet pen having an inkjet ejection nozzle and mounted on said carriage; and

a first means coupled to the carriage for deflecting and at least partially blocking flow of air between said nozzle and media on which printing is to take place during carriage movement in a first direction.

37. (Original) A fluid ejection device comprising:

a reciprocally moveable carriage;

at least one fluid droplet ejector mounted on said carriage;

a support for an object onto which fluid droplets are to be ejected; and

a deflector coupled to the carriage for deflecting airflow away from a trajectory of fluid droplets ejected from said ejector toward an object on said support.

38. (Original) The fluid ejection device of claim 37, further comprising a second deflector coupled to the carriage for deflecting airflow away from said trajectory, said deflectors being positioned on said carriage relative to said ejector to lead said ejector during each direction of movement of said carriage.

39. (Original) The fluid ejection device of claim 38, wherein said deflectors have boundaries which extend parallel to said support.

40. (Original) The fluid ejection device of claim 38, wherein said deflectors are flexible.

41. (Original) An inkjet printing mechanism comprising:

a movable fluid ejection device; and

an airflow deflector coupled to the fluid ejection device to at least partially block the flow of air between the fluid ejection device and media being printed upon during movement of the fluid ejection device relative to the media, wherein the air flow deflector is flexible.

42. (Original) The printing mechanism of Claim 41, wherein the fluid ejection device includes:

a carriage; and

at least one fluid ejector carried by the carriage, wherein the airflow deflector is coupled to the carriage.